

AMENDED IN SENATE JUNE 25, 2015

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 28, 2015

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 18, 2015

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2015–16 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 435

Introduced by Assembly Member Chang
(Coauthors: Assembly Members Gallagher, Olsen, and Steinorth)
(Coauthor: Senator Anderson)

February 19, 2015

An act to add Sections 12805.4 and 12812.4 to the Government Code, relating to state government.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 435, as amended, Chang. California Environmental Protection Agency: Natural Resources Agency: Web casts of public meetings and workshops.

Existing law establishes the California Environmental Protection Agency and the Natural Resources Agency as agencies in the state government. Existing law, the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act, generally requires that all meetings of a state body be open and public.

This bill would require that each department, board, and commission of the Natural Resources Agency and each department, board, and office of the California Environmental Protection Agency Web cast all onsite public meetings, in a manner that enables listeners and viewers to ask questions and provide public comment by telephone or electronic communication commensurate with those attending the meeting. The bill would require the agencies to make the recording of a Web cast

available online for no less than 3 years for subsequent viewing by interested members of the public.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.

State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 12805.4 is added to the Government
2 Code, to read:

3 12805.4. (a) For purposes of this section, ~~“Web the following~~
4 *terms have the following meaning:*

5 (1) *“Nonagency site” means a location other than agency*
6 *headquarters or state government buildings or facilities where the*
7 *primary operations of the agency or any of its departments, boards,*
8 *or commissions take place.*

9 (2) *“Web cast” means a media presentation distributed over the*
10 *Internet using live streaming media technology to distribute content*
11 *to listeners and viewers.*

12 (b) Each department, board, and commission of the Natural
13 Resources Agency shall Web cast all public meetings in a manner
14 that enables listeners and viewers to ask questions and provide
15 public comment by telephone or electronic communication
16 commensurate with those persons attending the meeting. The
17 agency shall make the recording of a Web cast available online
18 for no less than three years for subsequent viewing by interested
19 members of the public.

20 (c) The requirements of subdivision (b) do not apply to a
21 conservancy or the California Science Center. This subdivision
22 does not limit the authority of the agency to Web cast meetings of
23 a conservancy or the California Science Center.

24 (d) The requirements of subdivision (b) do not apply to public
25 meetings held at nonagency sites. This subdivision does not limit
26 the authority of the agency to Web cast meetings of any
27 department, board, or commission held at a nonagency site.

28 SEC. 2. Section 12812.4 is added to the Government Code, to
29 read:

30 12812.4. (a) For purposes of this section, ~~“Web the following~~
31 *terms have the following meaning:*

32 (1) *“Nonagency site” means a location other than agency*
33 *headquarters or state government buildings or facilities where the*

1 *primary operations of the agency or any of its departments, boards,*
2 *or offices take place.*

3 (2) “Web cast” means a media presentation distributed over the
4 Internet using live streaming media technology to distribute content
5 to listeners and viewers.

6 (b) Each department, board, and office of the California
7 Environmental Protection Agency shall Web cast all public
8 meetings in a manner that enables listeners and viewers to ask
9 questions and provide public comment by telephone or electronic
10 communication commensurate with those persons attending the
11 meeting. The agency shall make the recording of a Web cast
12 available online for no less than three years for subsequent viewing
13 by interested members of the public.

14 (c) The deputy secretary for external affairs shall be responsible
15 for implementation of this section.

16 (d) The requirements of subdivision (b) do not apply to public
17 meetings held at nonagency sites. This subdivision does not limit
18 the authority of the agency to Web cast meetings of any
19 department, board, or ~~commission~~ office held at a nonagency site.